

of Donati's Comet. The observations extend from October 11 to December 14, and are fifty-three in number. The instrumental places in R.A. and N.P.D. are given, corrected for refraction, but the results will not be available for the correction of the orbit till the stars of comparison have been observed with the transit circle. Notwithstanding the moonlight the comet was still an observable object.

Mr. Maclear remembers the comet of 1811, and considers that neither it nor Donati's comet is comparable in splendour to the great comet of 1843.

New Planet.

It appears that the planet discovered by Dr. Goldschmidt on the 9th of September, 1857, which was supposed at the time to be a rediscovery of *Daphne*,* was in reality a new planet. The discovery of this curious fact is due to M. Ernest Schubert, who having been appointed to compute an ephemeris of *Daphne* for publication in the American Nautical Almanac, found it impossible to reconcile the results of an orbit which he had calculated from the observations of 1857 with the observations made on the occasion of the original discovery of the planet in the previous year. The most recent researches on the orbit of the new planet are due to Dr. R. Luther of the Bilk Observatory. From the Bilk observation of Sept. 15, and two normal places of dates, Sept. 23 and 30, founded on the Berlin and Leyden observations, he has derived the following elements:

Elements of Planet (56).

Epoch 1857, Sept. 13^h 0^m Berlin M.T.

M	...	35	55	12.3	} Mean Equinox 1857.0
π	...	294	57	50.5	
δ	...	194	54	56.2	
i	...	7	56	2.3	
ϕ	...	13	7	17.6	
μ	...	854	4862		
Log a	...	0.4122010			

These elements give for June 1, 1856—

Calculation.	Observation.
$\Delta \alpha = + 12^{\circ} 20'$	$\Delta \delta = - 7^{\circ} 23'$

whence it is plain that the planet discovered on the 9th of September, 1857, is a distinct body from *Daphne*. This will appear still further evident from the following comparison between the eighteen observations of 1857 and the corresponding results of Dr. Luther's elements:

* First discovered on the 22d of May, 1856.

				Calculation—Observation.	
				$\Delta \alpha$	$\Delta \delta$
Paris (Goldschmidt)	Sept.	9		— 18 ^h 6	— 7 ^m 0
Bilk		15		+ 0 ^h 3	+ 0 ^m 1
Leyden		16		— 3 ^h 7	+ 0 ^m 5
Bonn		16		+ 9 ^h 8	+ 3 ^m 2
Berlin		16		— 0 ^h 6	+ 0 ^m 6
Leyden		17		— 0 ^h 9	+ 1 ^m 8
Berlin		17		+ 6 ^h 5	+ 2 ^m 1
Cambridge (England)		18		— 1 ^h 7	+ 2 ^m 4
Leyden		20		+ 4 ^h 1	+ 6 ^m 7
Bilk		20		— 1 ^h 4	— 1 ^m 2
Leyden		22		— 0 ^h 6	+ 0 ^m 8
Leyden		23		+ 0 ^h 3	+ 1 ^m 1
Berlin		23		+ 0 ^h 9	— 1 ^m 2
Leyden		24		— 3 ^h 6	+ 4 ^m 5
Leyden		26		+ 4 ^h 5	+ 0 ^m 9
Leyden		27		+ 2 ^h 9	+ 0 ^m 7
Leyden		29		+ 12 ^h 2	+ 1 ^m 9
Berlin		30		+ 0 ^h 2	+ 10 ^m 2

Dr. Luther has calculated an ephemeris of the planet from the foregoing elements extending from Jan. 0, 1859, to Feb. 17, which will be found in No. 1175 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten*.

The fifty-fifth of the minor-planet group, discovered by Mr. Searle (*Monthly Notices*, vol. xviii. page 302) at the Albany Observatory has been named *Pandora*. The following elements are by Dr. Möller:*

Epoch 1858, Nov. 4 ^h 3			
L		16	7 48 ^m 7
M		5	58 25 ^m 9
π		10	9 22 ^m 8
Ω		10	55 29 ^m 9
i		7	20 44 ^m 0
ϕ		7	59 14 ^m 2
μ		769	9607
Log a		0.4423587	

These elements refer to the equinox of the epoch.

It may be interesting to the Members of the Society to know that the living of Stone, near Aylesbury, has become vacant in consequence of the resignation of the Rev. J. B. Reade.

* Berlin *Jahrbuch* 1861.